

Screencast: [08-disk-partitions-filesystem.webm](#) or [08-disk-partitions-filesystem.mp4](#)

REFERENCE

LaUSAH Chapter 8, Storage

TLCL Chapter 15, Storage Media

Hard Drives

- Types
 - IDE / ATA / PATA (two connectors, 40 or 80 pin)
 - SATA
 - SSD
 - SCSI
 - SAS
 - Fiber Channel
 - USB, Firewire, eSATA
- Single disk
- Multiple disks
- Disk image file
- RAID 0, 1, 5, 10
 - hardware - BIOS - disk based
 - software - mdadm - disk or partition based
- NAS - NFS, SMB (service oriented filesharing)
- SAN - iSCSI, ATA over Ethernet (AoE)
- LVM - lvm, system-config-lvm

Partitioning Applications

- fdisk - fdisk -l (lists all drives seen) (gdisk or parted/gparted for GPT)
- sfdisk
 - sfdisk -d /dev/hda > hda.out
 - sfdisk /dev/hda < hda.out
- gdisk
- parted / gparted
- mount, umount
- Commercial products
 - Partition Magic
 - Partition Commander

Partitioning Schemes

PC hardware (with an MBR partition table) can have upto 4 primary partitions. If you need more than 4 partitions you'll have to make at least one "extended" partition. Extended partitions are containers for "logical" partitions. Largest partition size is 2TB.

- /
- /boot
- /var
- /home
- swap

A newer type of partition table is on the horizon named GPT. GPT eliminates a number of the restrictions of the MBR partition table. By default, GPT offers 128 partitions (more if desired) as

well as partitions > 2TB. For more information see:

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/GUID_Partition_Table

Filesystems

- Types
 - ext2, ext3, ext4
 - swap
 - xfs
 - reiser3
 - ntfs
 - vfat
 - iso9660
 - ufs
 - zfs (Solaris), openzfs (BSDs, Linux, macOS), btrfs (Linux)
- Formatting commands
 - mkfs.*, mkfs.ext3, mkfs.ext4, etc
 - mkswap
 - mkfs.ntfs, mkfs.vfat
- Network filesystems
 - NFS
 - SMB
 - GFS
 - Gluster, etc
 - iSCSI (layer 3) and AoE (layer 2)
- /etc/fstab (stores mount definitions)
- Removable media - CD, DVD, USB - Mostly automatic in a GUI, but manually in a TUI. Watch /var/log/messages for device information, use fdisk -l to list, and mount to manually mount
- UUID, LABEL, and device names
- autofs - Automatically mount network shares
- Secure erasure? DBAN or hdparm
- fuse (Filesystem in Userspace)
 - http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Filesystem_in_Userspace
- Troubleshooting
 - SMART - smartd
 - fsck, fsck.{fstype}, some filesystem-specific tools